

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

As to the amendment to independent claims 1 and 4 to recite “via LAN” and “be allocated for the requesting telephone set”, see, e.g., Applicants’ specification at paragraph bridging pages 4-5. As to other amendments to claims 1 and 4, see, e.g., original claims 1 and 4.

Dependent claim 2 has been amended to avoid use of the word “its”, with meaning unchanged and as in Applicants’ specification, e.g., Applicants’ specification at the paragraph bridging pages 4-5; page 6, lines 14-19; page 7, lines 26-28 and page 8, lines 1+.

Dependent claim 6 has been amended at line 2 to recite antecedent basis, for which amendment, see, e.g., Applicants’ specification at page 3, lines 12-13. As to the amendment to claim 6 at lines 3-4, to recite “of the requesting telephone set,” see, e.g., Applicants’ specification at the paragraph bridging pages 4-5.

As to new claims 8 and 9, see, e.g., Applicants’ specification at page 6, lines 7-11.

As to new claims 10 and 11, see, e.g., Applicants’ specification at page 8, lines 7-9.

At page 2, paragraph 5, Claims 1-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,393,017 to Galvin et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse the anticipation rejection. Galvin does not teach or disclose Applicants’ claimed invention.

Applicants’ claim 1 recites a “telephone controller that controls plural telephone sets via LAN connected to the Internet.” The telephone controller of Applicants’ claim 1 comprises: “a receiver that receives a message sent via LAN by one of the telephone sets for requesting an IP address be allocated for the requesting telephone set,” “a control circuit that generates an ID and an extension of the requesting telephone set in case the message for requesting the IP address is received;” “an IP address allocation circuit that allocates the IP address of the requesting telephone set;” “a table that stores an ID, an extension and the IP address;” and “a notifying unit that notifies the requesting telephone set of the ID, the extension and the IP address for the requesting telephone set.” (Id.)

Galvin does not disclose “a receiver that receives a message sent via LAN by one of the telephone sets for requesting an IP address be allocated for the requesting telephone set” as recited in Applicants’ claim 1. In Applicants’ claim 1, the message that the telephone set sends via LAN is before the requesting telephone set has received its IP address and is sent for the purpose of automatically getting its IP address. With the present invention, a person without knowledge of LAN and IP just connects the new telephone set to the LAN, and the telephone set automatically calls for an IP address to be allocated to itself.

That is not what Galvin teaches. No automatic IP address allocation is disclosed in Galvin. Galvin does not relate to establishing an IP address for a newly connected telephone set, as the present invention does. Rather, Galvin relates to a later point in time, when the telephone set already had received its IP address.

Galvin relies on known connection methods, i.e., a person who is not the user and who is knowledgeable of LAN and IP manually obtains and establishes the IP address for the telephone set. The “connection” in Galvin is said to be accomplished “using known network protocols” (col. 7, lines 66-67). There is no disclosure in Galvin of a telephone set automatically requesting its own IP address to get itself connected. Galvin assumes the connection because that is not part of his invention and connection in Galvin is accomplished conventionally, such as would be done by a person knowledgeable of LAN and IP manually taking care of establishing an IP address for a new telephone set being connected. Galvin’s invention concerns a different aspect of a telephone system, namely, authentication. For such purpose, Galvin works with alias records which are unique to a user. Examples of aliases are email addresses, telephone numbers, or social security numbers. (Col. 6, lines 35-43.) Unlike Applicants’ present invention, what Galvin provides is a system of aliases and authentication so that a user can unhook from one location and plug back in elsewhere, such as unplugging from an office phone while on a conference call and rejoining the call in the user’s automobile.

Moreover, in Galvin, at least the authentication and the alias data need to be entered manually by the user, and the location information (the IP address) is either entered manually by the user or sent by the agent 103 to the directory 112. Galvin fails to teach or disclose “an IP address allocation circuit that allocates the IP address of the requesting telephone set” as recited in Applicants’ claim 1. What is entered manually by the user in Galvin does not result in his telephone set’s IP

address being assigned or even changed.

Nor is the present invention obvious from Galvin. Galvin concerns permitting a single user to operate from multiple locations, i.e., multiple devices. Such disclosure does not motivate a person of ordinary skill in Applicants' art to consider how to automate a particular telephone set so that it requests its own IP address and gets an IP address allocated to it.

For at least the several above reasons, Galvin does not teach Applicants' invention of claim 1. Likewise, independent claim 4 also is not taught by Galvin. For simplicity and brevity, additional points of distinction with regard to independent claims 1 and 4 and dependent claims 2-3 and 5-7 are not itemized at this time. Simply put, Galvin fails to teach the automatic requesting activity of a telephone set nor the automatic IP address or ID allocation for a newly connected telephone set as recited in Applicants' claims.

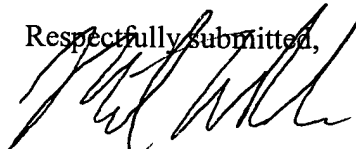
Wherefore, it is respectfully requested that the anticipation rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

It is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1-11 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



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